



January 2, 2002

Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D Street N.W., Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

Thank you for this opportunity to offer my views on the proposed settlement on the anti-trust case, *U.S. vs. Microsoft Corporation*. I am in full support of the settlement for these reasons:

- The settlement, when enacted, will put an end to a court action which has dragged along for four years and has cost our federal government a great deal of money.
- The benefits from the settlement will be highly fruitful for children in our nation who most need access to information technologies, but who have been shut out because of economic circumstances.
- The conclusion of this case will stop dragging down Microsoft Corporation's resources and attention from the excellent job it has done to provide the highly usable and affordable software systems in the homes and offices of Americans.
- The conclusion of this case will also end the threat of bringing down a corporation that has proven itself as being essential to the overall strength of America's economy.

Microsoft has been a very supportive partner in the development of information technologies in my home state of South Dakota. It submitted a \$760,000 matching grant to give a significant boost to the state government's effort to make the Internet ubiquitous to South Dakotans, and to increase opportunities for our state economy.

Personally, I have frequently wondered why this anti-trust case was initiated, because the case has not succeeded in proving that Microsoft Corporation has adversely affected consumers. I think the settlement is very, very generous, and that if there were issues which needed to be decided in this court process, they are now resolved.

Please do what you can to expedite this process and bring a fair conclusion to this case by allowing the settlement to be enacted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward T. Clark".

Edward T. Clark, M.D.
4708 S. Wildwood Circle
Sioux Falls, SD 57105